

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, CY, GR, TU; PINT

SUBJECT: HARTMAN-ITALIAN AMBASSADOR DISCUSSION ON CYPRUS
SITUATION

1. DURING JULY 19 CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN,
ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ORTONA SAID ROME CABLED ITS AMBASSADORS
IN BRUSSELS, ATHENS, ANKARA, LONDON AND WASHINGTON CON-
CERNING THE CYPRUS CRISIS. HE WAS CHARGED WITH ASCERTAINING
USG THINKING ON ACTIONS NECESSARY TO RESTORE A DEMOCRATIC
REGIME TO THE ISLAND. ORTONA STATED ITALY SOUGHT AN
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INDEPENDENT, SOVEREIGN CYPRUS WITH A GOVERNMENT CHOSEN BY

CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS, THE SAME GOALS IT BELIEVES THE US HAS. HE NOTED ROME SUPPORTED MEASURES TO RESTORE EQUILIBRIUM TO AN AREA IMPORTANT TO ITALY. ORTONA OBSERVED THAT THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT WOULD MOST LIKELY QUESTION THE GOVERNMENT AS TO ITS ATTITUDES AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS TOWARD CYPRUS.

2. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY EMPHASIZED THAT US EFFORTS ARE DIRECTED AT CONTAINING THE DISPUTE AND PREVENTING MATTERS FROM DETERIORATING. HE NOTED THAT THE WORST SITUATION WOULD BE ONE NATO ALLY TAKING ACTION AGAINST ANOTHER. HARTMAN STRESSED THAT THE EQUILIBRIUM ESTABLISHED BY THE LONDON AND ZURICH AGREEMENTS MUST BE RESTORED. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE US IS NOT ADVOCATING ANY PARTICULAR SOLUTION NOW AS WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO ASCERTAIN THE DIFFERENT POSITIONS OF THE VARIOUS INVOLVED PARTIES. HARTMAN SAID UNDER SECRETARY SISCO HAD MET WITH ECEVIT TWICE IN LONDON, WAS NOW IN ATHENS AND WOULD GO ON TO ANKARA.

3. HARTMAN EXPLAINED THE US HOPED THE UN RESOLUTION PROCESS COULD BE SLOWED DOWN AS A UN RESOLUTION WITHOUT MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION WOULD BE USELESS OR EVEN DANGEROUS (I.E. A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF GREEK OFFICERS COULD GIVE THE SOVIETS AN EXCUSE TO INJECT THEMSELVES ONTO THE ISLAND UNDER THE GUISE OF DEFENDING A UN RESOLUTION.) THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY TOLD ORTONA WE HAVE MADE THE POINT TO MOSCOW THAT IT SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION ON CYPRUS. HARTMAN EXPLAINED THE USG INTENDS TO TAKE A RESPONSIBLE POSITION, NOT GO BLINDLY WHERE INSTINCTS MIGHT LEAD, BUT DETERMINE WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF AN ACTION WOULD BE. HE SAID WE HOPE THE UN MEETINGS WILL PRODUCE AN INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS TO RETURN TO THE LONDON AND ZURICH AGREEMENTS.

4. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OBSERVED THAT THE TURKS WERE VERY CONCERNED THAT THE CYPRIOT EQUILIBRIUM HAD BEEN UPSET AND THAT SOME IN ANKARA FELT SAMPSON WAS THE FIRST STEP TO ENOSIS. HARTMAN TOLD ORTONA IT WAS NOT CLEAR THAT ATHENS PICKED SAMPSON. HE NOTED THAT IONNIDES AND MAKARIOS WERE HARDLY FRIENDS AND THAT MAKARIOS HAD BEEN SECRET

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TRYING TO GET RID OF THE GREEK OFFICERS IN THE NATIONAL GUARD. YET, HARTMAN STATED, THE QUESTION REMAINED AS TO WHETHER THE GREEK CYPRIOTS INSTIGATED THE MOVE AND/OR HOW INVOLVED ATHENS WAS IN THE PLANS. IN RESPONSE TO THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR, HARTMAN EXPLAINED THE GREEK OFFICERS IN THE NATIONAL GUARD WERE NOT BEING WITHDRAWN, BUT THAT A GREEK UNIT ON CYPRUS WAS DUE FOR PARTIAL ROTATION. HE STATED WE MADE IT CLEAR TO THE GREEKS THAT ONLY A ONE-FOR-

ONE EXCHANGE WOULD BE COUNTENANCED. HARTMAN SAID WE NOTED THE NATO DISCUSSION WHICH SPOKE OF WITHDRAWAL OF GREEK OFFICERS; THIS, WE BELIEVE, IS UNREALISTIC. HE TOLD ORTONA WE UNDERSTAND WHY LUNS TOOK UP THIS ISSUE BUT HOPED THAT NO FURTHER NATO DISCUSSIONS WITH GREECE AND TURKEY PRESENT WOULD OCCUR AS THEY WERE UNHELPFUL.

5. HARTMAN NOTED THE BRITISH HAD ALREADY SPOKEN TO THE TURKS AND WOULD SOON BE TALKING TO THE GREEKS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE UK, AS A GUARANTOR, IS IN A SPECIAL POSITION. HARTMAN CONCLUDED BY ASSURING ORTONA WE WOULD KEEP IN VERY CLOSE TOUCH WITH ITALY ON THIS ISSUE, AND THAT IF ROME SEES ANY AREAS IN WHICH IT CAN BE HELPFUL, WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO BE TOLD OF THEM.

6. HARTMAN HAD SIMILAR CONVERSATIONS WITH DANISH AND DUTCH AMBASSADORS AND THE CANADIAN CHARGE. INGERSOLL

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